

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 162547 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-14 ARA-14 NEA-11 SIG-03
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DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:MR

APPROVED BY AF/P:FDHOOK

-----050353 271745Z /43

R 262322Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
USICA WASHDC

UNCLAS STATE 162547

E.O. 11652: N/A

:AGS: SOPN

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JUNE 26, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW:

Q: U.N. TROOPS HAVE GONE INTO SOUTH LEBANON PRE,UMABLY TO
DETER TERRORIST INCURSION INTO ISRAEL.

NOW THE QUESTION IS: DO WE THINK THAT IT IS LESS IMPORTANT
TO DETER TERRORIST INCURSIONS FROM MOZAMBIQUE?

A: LET ME SAY ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF TERRORISM OUR POSI-
TION IS UNIVERSAL.
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Q: DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT BELIEVE MR. MUGABE'S STATEMENT
THAT " WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AXING, BAYONETTING
AND CLUBBING TO DEATH OF EIGHT MISSIONARIES AND FOUR OF
THEIR CHILDREN IN RHODESIA ON FRIDAY"?

A: I REALLY AM NOT GOING TO TRY TO ASSESS THIS. WE DO NOT
HAVE INDEPENDENT INFORMATION ON THE IDENTITY OF THOSE
RESPONSIBLE. OUR POSITION ON THAT, OF COURSE, --

Q: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS QUOTES STUDENTS AT THE EMMANUEL
SCHOOL AS REPORTING THAT THE TERRORISTS WHO ORDERED THEM
INTO THEIR DORMITORIES IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS "FREEDOM
FIGHTERS FROM ZANU", WHICH IS, OF COURSE, HEADED BY MR.
MUGABE.

DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT BELIEVE THIS REPORT BY AP OR DO
YOU BELIEVE MR. MUGABE'S CLAIM THAT THIS MASSACRE WAS
REALLY DONE BY THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES?

A: QUITE FRANKLY, I DO NOT HAVE AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT
OF RESPONSIBILITY. I HAVE A GOVERNMENT POSITION ON THE

QUESTION OF THIS PARTICULAR BARBARIST KILLING, WHICH WE HAVE ALREADY ISSUED OVER THE WEEKEND.

Q: COULD YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON AMBASSADOR MCHENRY'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS AND HIS ACHIEVEMENTS, IF ANY?

A: I CAN'T. HE IS ON HIS WAY HOME. I HAVE NO REPORT FROM HIM. I AM SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT OUR REPORTING FACILITIES IN ANGOLA ARE LIMITED, TO SAY THE LEAST. AS SOON AS WE HAVE SOME KIND OF READ-OUT, I PROMISE YOU I WILL GIVE YOU ONE.

Q: SOME THIRTY-THREE MISSIONARIES IN RHODESIA HAVE NOW BEEN MURDERED BY BLACK NATIONALIST TERRORISTS, SINCE THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS HAPPENED, WOULD THE STATE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SUPPLYING THE RACIALLY INTEGRATED RHODESIAN TROOPS WHO ARE FIGHTING THESE TERRORISTS WHO MURDER MISSIONARIES ABOUT WHOM PRESIDENT CARTER SAYS HE IS CONCERNED, OR DON'T YOU TAKE SERIOUSLY THE PRESIDENT'S CONCERN FOR CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES?

A: WE HAVE A GREAT AMOUNT OF CONCERN FOR THOSE WHO ARE BEING KILLED BY TERRORISTS OR BY INDISCRIMINATE RAIDS WHICH AFFECT HUMAN LIVES IN THAT AREA. OUR CONCERN EXTENDS SO FAR THAT WE DO NOT CONSIDER PROVIDING ARMS TO ANY OF THOSE WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THAT STRUGGLE, AND ARE IN FACT DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO BRING SOME KIND OF PEACEFUL RESOLUTION SO THE KILLING WILL STOP.

Q: THERE WAS A ONE-PARAGRAPH STORY IN SATURDAY'S WASHINGTON POST QUOTING THE PRESIDENT OF CHAD AS SAYING THAT THOUSANDS OF LIBYAN TROOPS SUPPORTED BY CUBAN TROOPS HAVE INVADDED THE COUNTRY IN SUPPORT OF CHADIAN REBELS. CAN YOU FLUSH THAT OUT A LITTLE?

A: LET ME DO THE BEST I CAN ON THAT, WHICH IS RELATIVELY LIMITED AGAIN. LET ME ANSWER THE QUESTION DIRECTLY: WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION THAT CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE OPERATING IN CHAD. WE DO KNOW THAT LIBYAN MILITARY PERSONNEL HAVE OCCUPIED A STRIP OF LAND IN NORTHERN CHAD KNOWN AS THE AOU/ZOU STRIP, WHICH LIBYA CLAIMS UNDER AN UNRATIFIED 1935 TREATY BETWEEN FRANCE AND ITALY, TWO FORMER COLONIAL POWERS IN THAT REGION. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, HOWEVER, LIBYA'S CLAIM ON THAT TERRITORY IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY ANY OTHER COUNTRY. WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM THAT LIBYAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE OPERATING OUTSIDE THAT STRIP THAT IS CLAIMED BY THEM. UNCLASSIFIED

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IT HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR SOMETIME, AND WE HAVE SAID, THAT LIBYA HAS BEEN PROVIDING CHADIAN REBELS WITH ARMS, WITH TRAINING AND WITH EQUIPMENT, BUT BEYOND THAT, I SIMPLY HAVE NO CONFIRMATION.

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM REPORTS OF A RHODESIAN RAID INTO MOZAMBIQUE, AND SECONDLY, WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE?

A: WE STILL CONTINUE TO HAVE OUR EMISSARIES FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE AREA WORKING TOWARD THAT END. I HAVE NO NEW STATUS REPORT. I THINK WE HAD SOMETHING TO SAY ON THE MOZAMBIQUE RAID LAST WEEK. YES, IT DID OCCUR. YES, WE DID DEPLORE.

Q: HOW DO YOU KNOW WHO RAIDED MOZAMBIQUE? YOU SAY THE RHODESIANS RAIDED MOZAMBIQUE, BUT YOU'RE NOT SURE WHO IT WAS THAT BUTCHERED THOSE MISSIONARIES?

A: THERE HAS BEEN NO DENIAL OF RESPONSIBILITY ON THAT ONE.

Q: YES, THERE IS. THE RHODESIANS DENIED IT. IT WAS IN THE PAPER.

A: I WILL TAKE THAT DENIAL. I HAVE NO IDEA BEYOND THAT.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE RAID INTO MOZAMBIQUE?

A: I HAVE TO NOW, OBVIOUSLY, HOLD A MINUTE AND SEE.

WHEN I LEFT HERE ON FRIDAY, IT WAS ONE KIND OF POSITION I'LL HAVE TO SEE. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 162547
ORIGIN NEA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/AFN:ABERGSTROM:LLC

APPROVED BY:NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP

-----082024 290924Z /14

R 290430Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS STATE 162547

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 162547 SENT ACTION KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI
BRUSSELS PARIS ROME LUSAKA LISBON USUN NEW YORK BRAZZAVILLE
HAVANA RABAT NAIROBI ACCRA MONROVIA BANJUL BUKAVU PRETORIA
LAGOS DAR ES SALAAM BANGUI BUJUMBURA KIGALI LONDON BONN
USNATO MASERU PORT LOUIS MAPUTO VICTORIA MOGADISCIO COTONOU
YAOUNDE PRAIA ADDIS ABABA DJIBOUTI ABIDJAN KHARTOUM CAPE
TOWN USICA JUN 26.

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 162547

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
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From: STATE
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To: KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI MULTIPLE
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